



Girls, JMG's, & Mountains!

Say it isn't so! Can we really be this close to the end of the 2012 season? Sadly, yes – but with each passing day a thousand happy events take place that define in big and small ways the daily life of a camper – a soccer game, a tennis match, sanding a shop project, hanging out on a porch chatting with a pal, a tetherball match, a chess game, a special mention...and so many others.

“Girls, girls, girls!” – so goes the refrain from the Mötley Crüe song. And that was who were on the minds of the older guys as we drove to a “Social” at Camp Arcadia! Yes, we were invited back, and we didn’t tell the guys (13 – 16 year-olds) until lunch; just before we were to leave! Everyone cheered...and then ran for the showers! The girls greeted us in their blue shirts and shorts and led us to the beach where the boys split into three groups for games, ice-breakers, and canoe events. A free-swim followed and then a cook-out. By then they knew each other a little and conversations and laughs followed. When it was time to go no one wanted to leave and the girls didn’t want us to go. Names and numbers were exchanged and the boys arrived back at camp with memories of a great day. Tracy and I, Ben Smith, and David Ruhle were very pleased with the boys’ ability to represent themselves and Camp Kawanhee as handsome and respectful young men.



Both the JMG (Junior Maine Guide) trip and the Mt. Katahdin trip arrived back to camp on Friday. The boys who scaled Katahdin were all grins as they experienced a near perfect trip. The day they chose to go for the peak turned out to be a beautiful clear day perfect for mountain climbing. They rose early and with such an able crew they made it up the 3.3 mile Roaring Brook trail in no time. From there they attempted the breathtaking Cathedral Trail with its spectacular views of Chimney Pond as they made their way to the summit, and then, luck and skill, on their side, they hiked the exposed and near vertical sided Knife Edge – one of the most challenging trails in New England. No injuries, great cooking and campfires, wilderness, and new appreciation for the mountains of Maine were the hallmarks of the Mt. Katahdin trip. And next week the JC's will try their luck on Maine's highest summit!



Camp Craft instructors Fritz Rullan, and Tash Doughty took 11 JMG candidates to the proving grounds in Rangeley for the five-day JMG testing week. Maine Guides put them through extensive testing to prove their knowledge and skills in areas ranging from canoe skills, knowledge of Maine flora and fauna, to testing their cooking skills, and of course the famous "Wet Day Fire" challenge. During this test each candidate is given a billet of cedar and using that wood alone with their ax and knife they must build a fire and boil a cup of water!

Stay posted, and follow us on Facebook (see link at end) for details of the last week. And as we draw near the end, we give thanks to you, dear readers, for your support of our endeavors at Camp Kawanhee.

Dan Webster, Camp Director

Tennis Tournaments

Michael Altmaier

As we did last year, we had several singles and doubles tennis tournaments that were completed within the first four weeks at camp. Until last year, Kawanhee's tennis tournaments were held at the end of the camp season and thus eliminated our growing population of four week campers. We had some great and competitive tournaments. In the Junior C division, Peter K. took home the title with a hard fought three set victory over Ethan C. Peter lost the



first set, but rebounded with some great play. In the Junior B tournament Jeff K. defeated Charlie L. This was a rematch of last summer's singles final in the same division. Again, it was a great three set match. Jeff took the first set, Charlie the second and Jeff was down 2-0 in the third set before he rebounded and made a great comeback! The Junior A and Seniors were combined into one tournament and in the final, Lucas A. defeated Caleb T. Lucas was also Junior A champion last summer. We also had two doubles tournaments. In the Junior B division, Jeff K. and Quinn O. defeated Charlie L. and Elliot G. and in the Junior A- Senior division Lucas A. and Rafael T. defeated Noah P.G. and Stephen E. Thanks to all who participated and thanks for a great tourney. We are having two more tournaments to end the camp season. A separate singles and doubles tournament that we are calling "Champion of Camp". It should be exciting, as for the first time in Kawanhee history we are choosing the best singles player and doubles team among all the campers!





Sports Cards Collecting at Kawanhee!

Michael Altmaier

This summer I've tried to introduce a new free time activity at Kawanhee. We are doing some collecting of sports cards. We are collecting football, baseball and basketball cards. Some boys are collecting just one sport, some are doing two sports and a few are collecting all three sports. This was a hobby I enjoyed a great deal as a boy, and if I had kept my cards I would now be a millionaire! Over 60 boys have participated in the group over the course of the summer. Each boy was given a small notebook, and card organizers and twice a week cards are distributed. A lot of the boys have large collections- especially if they are a seven week camper- and they probably need a bigger notebook. Hopefully, that problem will be solved soon. Hopefully, this has been a fun new hobby for some of the boys. The boys who have collected sports cards this summer are Adam M., Ben C., Ben C.(a different camper!), Carlos R., Luke P., Nate M., Ty N., Tyler J., Javi C., Jero S., Xavier A., Alec R., Clyde Q., Gonzolo C., Luis N., Ricardo K., Ted S., Drew C., Gabriel C., Juan G., Santiago G., Chris S., Spencer D., Andrew P., Daniel D., Edu S., Inigo P., Jimmy R., Josh P., Juan A., Kiko L., Marco N., Ricardo F., Ryan D., Walter M., AJ D., Antonio F., Charlie L., Luca C., Salva A., Ben K., Drew C., Ethan R., Jack C., James S., Jordan P., Kyle R., Peter B., Quique P., Will S., Zach S., Jose P., Luis S., Quinn O., Alejandro P., Elisha T., Miguel G., Everett T., Gian D., Hector Q., Lucas A., and Willy P.

Kawanhee Art



Kawanhee Art has been busier than ever this season. With over 150 original stuffed friends sewn and cherished, campers have learned to sew and design with fabric arts. In addition to sewing, many campers make t-shirts using stencil designs and spray paint, requiring a understanding of several artistic skills.

Others have chosen more traditional art mediums, oil painting on the porch, watercolors of the lake, throwing on the pottery wheel, hand building with clay, drawing, and various other artistic interests of their choosing.

The Art department was fortunate enough to attend the annual Monhegan Island trip for the second year running. This allows the art director to conduct more intensive 2 hour sessions in a world famous setting, in the following media: watercolor, colored pencil, pen and ink, or a mixture of the many choices (mixed media). The work is excellent and the experience is priceless. We would like to thank the Tripping Department and camp as a whole for such an amazing opportunity.

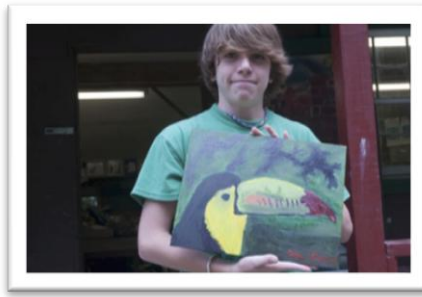
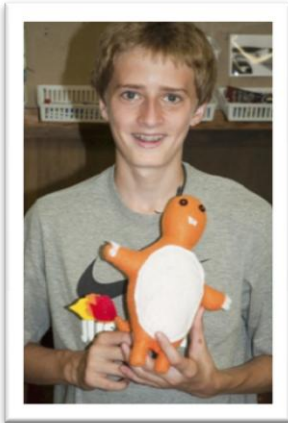
This year in Art we have sought to change the focus by allowing students to choose anything they want, branching away from the traditional project choices in favor of individual direction. We are very fortunate to be able to offer a nourishing environment with every opportunity to explore any camper interest and we want to embrace this as much as possible. Campers simply submit proposals and we do our best to guild and structure their direction. This has been made all the easier by our amazing staff of Laurie Barker-Clinton, and our welcome new addition Frances. Both members and myself are capable artists themselves who enjoy teaching, learning from the campers and the process, and cherish the space we inhabit.

Finally, we would like to thank the campers and their families for this amazing opportunity and facility. We have used over 400 pounds of clay, sewn over 30 yards of fleece, and consumed hundreds of feet of drawing paper, all in the interest of Art and raising amazing young men with diverse experiences and interests. May their always be a Kawanhee, and may we always cherish this place and its people. Thank You - Andy Bourassa

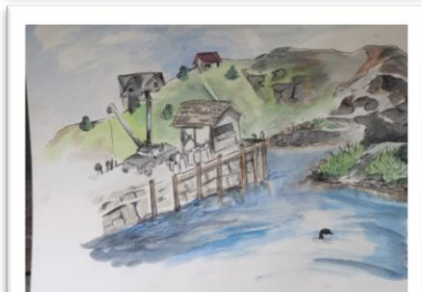
Andrew Bourassa ~ Art Director



Kawanhee Wigwam Art Show







Garden of Dreams

By Ben Zambito

As it was true for Kevin Costner in *Field of Dreams*, it was also true for the Kawanhee Garden... “Build it, and they will come.” The Kawanhee Nature Department did build a garden, which consists of three raised beds and a compost development station (all protected by a 9 ft. tall fence), and children did come out to take part in everything that the garden had to offer. But, what exactly did the garden have to offer to the boys at Kawanhee this summer?



The garden project began with only a piece of land (next to the basketball court), and a rough blue print sketched out by Nature S.C., Spencer Branch. Once camp obtained the necessary materials, Kawanhee campers were involved in every step of the garden’s construction. Under the watchful eye of the Nature counselors, the Kawanhee boys roto-tilled the ground beneath the beds, dug the holes for the fence posts, used power tools to construct the beds, and then mixed perfect soil to introduce our numerous plant species into (which, of course, the campers planted with their own two hands).

Once completed, the work did not stop there. A garden requires constant attention in order to thrive. Campers continued to remain involved with the garden, doing all the necessary weeding, watering, and construction for optimal garden success. With the help of campers, our camp garden thrived beyond anyone’s expectations. This summer our Kawanhee community has enjoyed fresh lettuce, basil, rosemary, dill, cilantro, chives, celeriac, tomatoes, peppers, kale, and kohlrabi—all from the garden! Our community has also benefited from a reduced amount of food waste, as we have used the scraps from the dining hall to make nutrient rich compost.

The most gratifying thing as a counselor in Nature, and being one of the people in charge of the garden project, was getting the kids outside, working and building with their hands. I witnessed Kawanhee campers come to realize that they can rely on themselves to accomplish things, as opposed to always relying on someone else. Perhaps most importantly, campers came to realize that they loved working outside!

2012 Junior Maine Guide Program

There comes a time in every young boy's and girl's life where they feel a transition erupting inside of them. Gradually they leave behind childish attitudes and habits as they begin to adopt broader perspectives towards themselves and their community/environment. This stage is heavily marked by an awareness of their potential to have an impact on others and their surroundings, as well as by a sense of individuality.

Traditions such as rites of passage help young individuals complete that transition in a

more wholesome and fruitful manner. Rites of passage can be incredibly beneficial for that individual and the community at large as they provide an opportunity to channel the inner changes and eruptions into a constructive attitude and positive intent. Just as ancient cultures and indigenous tribes of old have upheld formal rites of passage as a firm tradition in their communities, Kawanhee offers a program that assimilates the underlying purpose of such a rite. The Junior Maine Guide program is that catalyst in young boys' and girls' lives; a catalyst that provides the opportunity to challenge and discover what capacities lay dormant within them. Such abundant capacities and virtues as dedication, leadership, independence, teamwork, overall integrity and self-respect are obtained. The five week program consists in preparing those willing to accept the challenge (independent of external pressures such as parental impulse or desire for prestige) in a myriad of wilderness living skills so that they may be relied on in the future as guides in the Maine wilderness. Four weeks are spent in rigorous training and education as the candidates prepare for a five day testing camp, conducted by the Maine State Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, where they are evaluated by official Maine Guides in most everything they do throughout their stay, along with approximately eighty other candidates from across the state, country and in the case of Kawanhee, the globe. The evaluation consists of twenty-one tests including practical tests such as: axe-man ship, canoeing, map-making, cooking, shelter-building, etc., and written tests such as, first aid and CPR, environmental concerns, Maine issues essay, minimum impact camping, wildlife identification, trees identification, etc. Therefore, the qualities and skill-sets developed through this program range from academic aptitude to sheer and rugged hands-on work in the woods. Those who come out of the J.M.G. program truly undergo a transformative experience that will help them



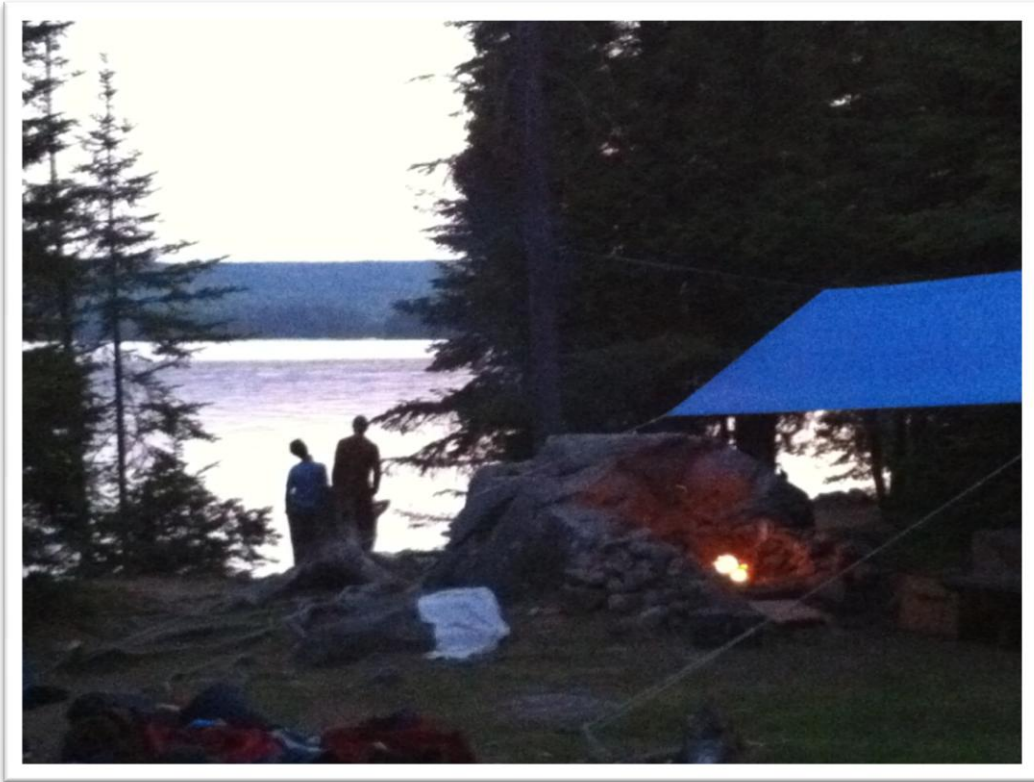
become a well rounded individual who appreciates the value of hard work, understands the meaning of delayed gratification and gains a greater appreciation for co-existence within nature and all of its beauty.

This summer, eleven brave young men stepped up to the occasion and made a firm decision to dedicate their summer to J.M.G. I am flooded with pride and admiration towards these boys because they have abandoned their comfort zone and have dared to launch themselves into unknown and intimidating terrains. How beautifully their decision has paid off! What a rewarding journey it has been for them as well as for me! Just imagine a group of five 14-15 year old boys living together for four days amongst the pines in an encampment set-up entirely by themselves, having canoed all the equipment, that they themselves planned and packed, across the lake, and working as a team to cook meals on time for adult testers that arrive



only to evaluate their meal and encampment, then depart immediately afterwards. As a part of the training this year, we made a three day canoe trip down the Kennebago River into Mooselookmeguntic Lake where we spent two nights on two different islands. Tash Doughty and I were the supposed instructors/counselors on that trip, but honestly we felt as if we were campers been taken on a leisurely trip by these guys! The candidates prepared the trip (food, menu, equipment lists), packed everything, set up a cozy abode nestled in the woods including a main dining area, a kitchen and a fireplace, and also cooked every meal by themselves for a total of 12 mouths. These skills were practiced again the following week as they camped out on Skookamee and New Moose outposts here on Lake Webb for further training. The week after that they displayed the same skills with fashionable style at the J.M.G. testing camp, where all details of their performance were evaluated, from the quality of their food and table manners to skills in fire building and axe and knife skills.

The eleven Kawanhee braves that underwent the J.M.G. program this summer were the following: Freddie B., Brandon H., Eddie T., Max B., Kevin B., Alfredo F., Morgan K., Nick K., Jaime L. , Liam W. and Eli Y.



Through the years, there has been a great deal of pressure and attention surrounding the results of the J.M.G. evaluation.

“Did he pass or did he fail?!”

As J.M.G. instructor I cannot stress enough the absolute absurdity that underlies the slight mention of the word failure when referring to what these young men have accomplished this summer. There is not an ounce of failure in the mix of values that they have acquired and developed. All the memories to be stored, all the valuable life lessons, all the small successes and slips along the path can only enrich their character from here on forward. Much has been gained, many obstacles surpassed, therefore, may they all be rightfully regarded as successful and victorious candidates. Oh! What a privilege and honor it has been to share these past weeks with such remarkable young leaders as the 2012 Kawanhee J.M.G. candidates.

John Fritz Rullan~ J.M.G. Instructor

Week Five Grey & Maroon Score

Greys: 34, 928

Maroons: 32,270

Top Ten

Ethan Bear Maroon 1630

Daniel Beaver Grey 1575

Juan Jose Moose Grey 15470

Ricardo Beaver Grey 1425

Inigo Beaver Maroon 970

Clyde Pine Maroon 965

William Deer Maroon 935

Alejandro Trout Maroon 935

Ricky Moose Maroon 935

Charlie Moose Grey 930



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the camps homepage or bookmark this link:**

**[http://12moons.smugmug.com/Camp-Kawanhee/2012-Camp-
Kawanhee-Photographs](http://12moons.smugmug.com/Camp-Kawanhee/2012-Camp-Kawanhee-Photographs)**

*****(Remember the password for the photo galleries is the rock in the lake where camper's swim or
walk to in order to get a 'K' painted on their paddle. The password is all lower case and is one word,
for example if the answer was "Oak Trees" the password would be "oaktrees")**

Look for another issue about this time next week!!!